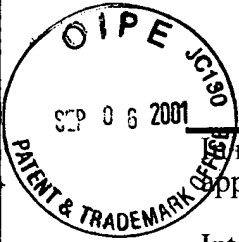


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)  
(National Phase of International App.: PCT/DE00/04299, W/O 01/39864 A1)

re the  
Application of: **Wilhelm ARDES**  
  
International Application No.: **PCT/DE00/04299**  
  
International Filing Date: **01 December 2000**  
  
U.S. Serial No.: **09/890,588**  
  
Filed: **August 2, 2001**  
  
For: **FLUID FILTER WITH REMOVABLE  
CENTRAL COMPONENT WITH ADDITIONAL  
RETAINER**  
  
Attorney Docket No.: **HHI-031US**

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September 6, 2001

Date

By

  
Ilidio P. Cardoso

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the application as follows.